

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Wesely, will you respond?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Wesely, I had asked during the committee hearings about the possibility of nurse practitioners being able to perform abortions and was assured that they cannot with this legislation. But I've become aware of a relatively new way for abortions to occur by way of treatment with a current cancer therapy drug and also a concurrent use of a pharmaceutical for gastrointestinal problems. And I just want to be assured again, for the record, that this type of a procedure cannot be used as a therapeutic measure by these nurse practitioners, that they, in fact, cannot do these abortions.

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Dierks, I've been in contact with Dr. Horton in the Health Department, also representatives of the nursing profession, they've all confirmed that the defining statutes in our laws regarding abortion are in the criminal sections and they define that only a physician can perform an abortion in any fashion whatsoever. So no nurse, under any circumstance, will be able to perform any type of abortion in any way whatsoever. It is not allowed under our law. And this does not change that.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you. Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Wesely, your light is next.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. I just wanted to rise and echo Senator Withem's support for the amendment. Both the Medical Association and the Nursing Association support the amendment. It is, in my view, technical in nature and merely cleans up the amendments we adopted on General File. I would ask your support.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. There are no further lights. Senator Withem. He waives closing. The question is the adoption of the Withem amendment to LB 414. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator